

# PARISH CALENDAR

First Sunday  
of Advent

November 27, 2022

Marana tha! Come Lord Jesus!

Saturday, November 26	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, November 27	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass (Live Stream)
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, November 28	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	<b>Food Pantry Closed</b>
Tuesday, November 29	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Wednesday, November 30	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, December 1	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Friday, December 2	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Saturday, December 3	..... 10:00-12 pm	<b>Confession - 87-1511 Nakii St.</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

## NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**Is:11:1-10: A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,” prophesied Isaiah.**

**Rom:15:4-9: The Scriptures were written for our instruction, that we might draw encouragement from them and that “we might have hope.”**

**Mt:3:1-12: John the Baptist came as a preacher in Judean desert: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”**

**(Masks are optional)**

**We continue to Live Stream the Sunday Mass @ 9:00 a.m. @ <https://www.stritananakuli.org/livestream> or [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr\\_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCepqtr_VuHL7R-MjmZpe7Cg/)**

## WINTER COLD AND FLU SEASON

**As always, you are reminded to use common sense for your health and safety during the annual cold and flu season. If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from coming to Mass. In the same way, you should refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace. A smile and a heartfelt “Peace be with you” should suffice. All of us must be aware of such sensitive matter in the intimate life of the Christian community and we should expect that some will refrain from a physical expression of the sign of peace out of care of our well-being and not out of unkindness or lack of piety.**

## ALARM CLOCK

People act differently at night than they do in the day. In the day we are busy with personal responsibilities, but nights invite relaxation. On some nights, we relax too much. Some people let their guard down at night. In the dark we are more prone to commit crime and enter sin, as if no one can see.

When the hour comes to wake from sleep, we are filled with expectation and remorse. We look forward to the promise of the coming day, but we regret the sins of the past.

Advent is here. The alarm has just gone off. St. Paul says, “It is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.” Paul is not talking about the dawn of another weekday. He speaks of the dawn of an eternal day. Our salvation is near at hand. The risen Christ longs to enter our hearts and dwell there by faith.

We have to quit acting as if it is night. We should behave as if it were eternal day. Our responsibilities as Christians continue in every circumstance—when we are at work or at play, when we are active or at rest. The faithful Christian remains vigilant at all hours, so that we will be ready for Christ when he comes.

Christ is coming soon. Our salvation is near at hand. Let us spend this Advent doing the deeds of day and avoiding the deeds of darkness.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## COMING SOON! WORLD FAMOUS MOLOKA'I HOT

**BREAD FUND-RAISER:** Tickets available for Sale December 3<sup>rd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>. **Cost \$14!** Great gift for Christmas! All proceeds will support St. Rita's general fund.

## CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:

Thanks you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections) and click "How to Give" under "Resources."

**WORD OF LIFE:** "Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"

## WEEKLY READINGS

### Nov 27 Sun: First Sunday of Advent

Is:2:1-5; Ps:122; Rom:13:11-14; Mt:24:37-44

### Nov 28 Mon: Advent Weekday

Is: 4:2-6; Ps:122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt:8:5-11

### Nov 29 Tue: Advent Weekday

Is:11:1-10; Ps:72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk:10:21-24

### Nov 30 Wed: Saint Andrew, Apostle

Rom:10:9-18; Ps:19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt:4:18-22

### Dec 1 Thur: Advent Weekday

Is:26:1-6; Ps:118:1 & 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt:7:21, 24-27

### Dec 2 Fri: Advent Weekday

Is:29: 17-24; Ps:27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt:9:27-31

### Dec 3 Sat: Saint Xavier, Priest

Is:30:19-21, 23-26; Ps:147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt:9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

## Swords into Plowshares

The first reading of the entire Advent season presents Isaiah's famous dream of a people at peace: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." How can we get that peace?

In Isaiah's vision, that peace comes from the Word of the Lord. That Word comes from Jerusalem.

The city of Jerusalem sits on a hill, but it is a stubby little hill. Other hills are larger. But Isaiah prophesies that Jerusalem's hill will be established as the highest mountain. All will stream toward it to hear God's Word.

For Christians, when we hear this prophecy on the First Sunday of Advent, we imagine Isaiah's dream on a grander scale. We see heaven as the new Jerusalem, established higher than anywhere else. We see all peoples streaming toward it for instruction. The word that comes from the new Jerusalem is the Word made flesh at Bethlehem. We yearn to hear that Word and form our lives by it.

This day, let us hear the Word of God. Let us take the weapons we hurl at our neighbors—the angry words, the hurtful deeds—and beat them into plowshares that open fertile soil of communication and into pruning hooks that weave renewed relationships of peace.

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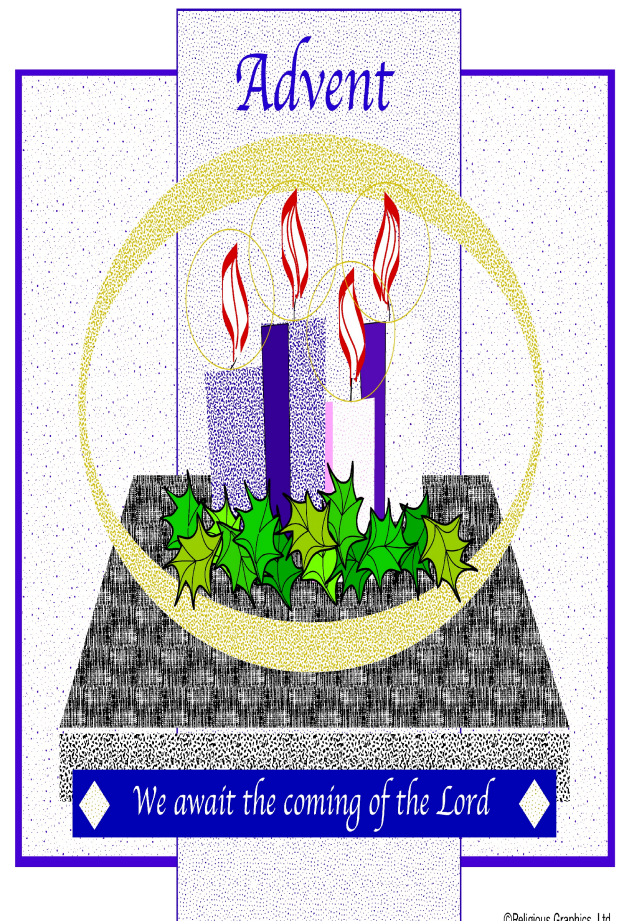
## NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

On this first Sunday of Advent Jesus urges his disciples to stay awake and prepare themselves for the Lord's coming. Good stewards prepare themselves await Christ's judgment in joyful expectation. This attitude requires genuine spiritual maturity, of course; the kind that is cultivated by prayer, participation in the sacraments, loving attention to family and one's communion of faith, and love for one's neighbor. Are we prepared for the Lord's second coming? Are we ready to receive Christ? Are we ready to look joyously for Christ's judgment? (International Catholic Stewardship Council)

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

### MAHALO FOR SHARING YOUR TREASURE

You can still continue contribute to St. Rita during this time of Social - distancing by going to our web-site [www.stritananakuli.org](http://www.stritananakuli.org) And click "On-line Giving" on the banner line. You can also send your Tithe/Donation via mail: St. Rita Catholic Church/ 89-318 Farrington Hwy. / Nanakuli, HI 96792



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# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Peace and Tranquility

God our Father and giver of peace,  
you turn the forces of death  
into healing,  
as you fulfill your promises  
throughout time.  
Encourage us to be alert for  
your presence  
and to hope when we are discouraged.  
Turn our swords, our wrongdoing,  
into instruments of peace  
so that one day we will rejoice  
as we walk to the house of the Lord.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, November 27, 2022**  
**A Pilgrimage toward God**



*Today's readings: Isaiah 2:1–5; Psalm 122:1–9; Romans 13:11–14; Matthew 24:37–44.* In the time of Isaiah's prophecy, the mountaintops were considered the gods' dwelling. Is it any wonder that peace, well-being, and complete joy were to be found, according to Isaiah in the first reading, on the "mountaintop" of the new Jerusalem? As Christians, we are called to new life, to new ways of being. We are to discard enmity and act peacefully as we walk in the light to the house of the Lord.

St. Paul discerns between the darkness of the current time and the light that awaits us on "the day at hand." He calls the Romans to be ready for the Lord, to reform their lives "to put on the Lord Jesus Christ." The call is for

us also so that we will "awake from sleep" and "put on the armor of light."

Advent begins with a vivid reminder to be ready at all times to meet God. "Therefore, stay awake," Jesus tells the disciples in Matthew's Gospel account. Each day we must listen carefully to the message of Scripture. Our destination is the heavenly mountaintop, and our hope is for peace and justice for all.

As the Advent wreath is blessed and lighted on this Sunday that begins the liturgical year, keep within you the image of the burning flame. Allow the candle to reflect God's presence within each pilgrim that you encounter on your Advent journey.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, November 28

#### Judgment and Glory

Take to heart the words of the prophecy of Isaiah that “the LORD’s glory will be shelter and protection: / shade from the parching heat of day / refuge and cover from storm and rain.” This week, seek out the Lord when facing struggles; know that refuge awaits. Allow the consolation you receive to fill your heart with rejoicing, as the psalmist sings. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 4:2–6; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4b, 4cd–5, 6–7, 8–9; Matthew 8:5–11.*

### Tuesday, November 29

#### Welcome the Lamb

Isaiah invites us to come together on God’s holy mountain, where “he shall judge the poor with justice, / and decide aright for the land’s afflicted.” With justice prevailing, “there shall be no harm or ruin” on this holy mountain. Consider how you can strive to be just within your thoughts and your heart as well as your acts. Be assured that peace comes through justice. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Luke 10:21–24.*

### Wednesday, November 30

#### St. Andrew, Apostle

St. Andrew the apostle was the brother of St. Peter, according to Luke 6:14. It was Andrew who told Jesus about the boy who had the loaves and fish (John 6:8–9) during the feeding of the multitudes. Ask St. Andrew today to help you find an opportunity to feed the hungry. Remember that hunger is in mind as well as in body: those who hunger for friendship, acceptance, or love need to be served as much as those who hunger for their daily food. *Today’s readings: Romans 10:9–18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Matthew 4:18–22.*

### Thursday, December 1

#### Hope and Trust

In the Gospel reading from Matthew today, Jesus is direct when he tells the disciples that “only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven” will enter the kingdom. God does not desire lip service but obedience to his will. Use this Advent morning to quietly spend time with God so that you can listen to him and discern his will. Make a simple Advent wreath, light a candle each night, and pray in its light. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 26:1–6; Psalm 118:1, 8–9, 19–21, 25–27a; Matthew 7:21, 24–27.*

### Friday, December 2

#### The Blind See

Isaiah vividly portrays the day when justice comes, saying, “On that day the deaf shall hear / the words of a book; / And out of gloom and darkness, / the eyes of the blind shall see.” This will be a time when people keep holy the name of God, and those who err will find understanding. But already in the Gospel, Jesus opens the eyes of two blind men because of their faith. During Advent, may we seek to realize that the Lord is our light and salvation, as the psalm’s refrain states. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 29:17–24; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; Matthew 9:27–31.*

### Saturday, December 3

#### St. Francis Xavier

St. Francis Xavier, a cofounder of the Jesuit order, shared his faith as a missionary. He was possibly the most instrumental missionary priest of his time because he initiated a practice of adapting to the language and customs of the people whom he wanted to baptize. This approach of adaptation has been modeled over the past five hundred years. Consider how you might adapt to the language and custom of someone who needs to be understood, accepted, and treated as a brother or sister in Christ. *Today’s readings: Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26; Psalm 147:1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8.*

